



# Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

May 6, 1985

NUMBER 5100.35

ASD(C)

SUBJECT : Military Communications-Electronics Board

References: (a) DoD Directive 5100.35, "Military Communications-Electronics Board (MCEB) ," December 29, 1962 (hereby canceled)  
(b) DoD Directive 4650.1, "Management and Use of the Radio Frequency Spectrum," December 13, 1974  
(c) DoD Directive 5000.19, "Policies for the Management and Control of DoD Information Requirements," March 12, 1976

A. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive reissues reference (a) and establishes the Military Communications-Electronics Board (MCEB) with the mission, organization, functions, responsibilities, and relationships outlined below.

B. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (OJCS), the Unified and Specified Commands, the Office of the DoD Inspector General, and the Defense Agencies (hereafter referred to collectively as "DoD Components").

C. MISSION

The MCEB shall consider those military communications-electronics matters referred to it by the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other authorities designated herein. For such matters, the MCEB shall:

1. Obtain coordination among DoD Components, between the Department of Defense and other governmental departments and agencies, and between the Department of Defense and representatives of foreign nations.
2. Provide guidance and direction to DoD Components.
3. Furnish advice and assistance, as requested.

D. ORGANIZATION

1. The MCEB shall be composed of the following:
  - a. The Director for Command, Control, and Communications Systems (C<sup>3</sup>S), OJCS, who shall serve as Chairperson.
  - b. The Assistant Chief of Staff for Information Management, U.S. Army.

- c. The Director, Naval Communications Division, U.S. Navy.
- d. The Assistant Chief of Staff for Information Systems, U.S. Air Force.
- e. The Director, Command, Control, Communications, and Computer (C<sup>4</sup>) Systems Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.
- f. The Director, Defense Communications Agency (DCA).
- g. An official designated by the Director, National Security Agency (NSA), as his representative.
- h. The Director, Joint Tactical Command, Control, and Communications Agency (JTC<sup>3</sup>A).

2. The Chairperson, MCEB, may request representatives from other DoD Components and Government-agencies to participate with the MCEB on any matter in which that component or agency has an interest.

3. The MCEB shall be supported by a permanent Secretariat within the OJCS.

#### E. FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall provide policy guidance and direction to the MCEB.

2. The Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Command, Control, and Communications (C<sup>3</sup>) Review Council, the Secretaries of the Military Departments, and the Heads of DoD Components shall refer military communications-electronics matters to the MCEB for coordination, or other appropriate action, as they deem appropriate.

3. The Chairperson, Military Communications-Electronics Board, shall:

a. Preside at MCEB meetings or designate a member to act as Chairperson in his or her absence.

b. Determine whether matters referred to the MCEB are appropriate for MCEB consideration.

c. Redirect matters referred to the MCEB for action by the C<sup>3</sup> Review Council or other DoD Component, when the Chairperson determines that such matters are more properly within the purview of one of these organizations, or can best be accomplished by such referral.

d. Determine whether matters referred to the MCEB are subject to final MCEB action.

e. Exercise the power of decision when consensus is not reached on matters referred to the MCEB that are subject to final MCEB action.

f. Determine the subsequent disposition of matters referred to the MCEB that are not subject to final MCEB action.

g. Establish administrative and procedural arrangements for the MCEB, to include managing the Secretariat.

h. Communicate directly with all DoD Components, with other departments and agencies of the Government, and with representatives of other nations on communications-electronics matters for which the MCEB is responsible.

i. Establish and direct, as required, subsidiary panels to support MCEB activities.

j. Coordinate membership for appropriate allied technical panels and working groups.

k. Serve as principal member to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Communications-Electronics Board and the Combined Communications-Electronics Board and alternate member to the NATO Joint Communications-Electronics Committee.

4. Members of the Military Communications-Electronics Board shall:

a. Participate in the activities of the MCEB and vote on matters placed before the MCEB for decision.

b. Designate an alternate who, when participating in MCEB activities for his or her principal, shall have plenary power to act for same.

c. Request, individually or as a group, reconsideration by the Secretary of Defense or the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as appropriate, of a decision made by the Chairperson, MCEB, under the authorities contained in paragraphs E.3.c, E.3.d, or E.3.e, above. Such a request shall be submitted through the Chairperson, MCEB, for comment. When reconsideration by the Secretary of Defense is requested, the request also will be accompanied by the comments of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

5. The Military Communications-Electronics Board shall consider those matters assigned consistent with subsections E.2, E.3, and E.4, above, and for these matters:

a. Support radio frequency management functions of the Military Departments and Defense Agencies in accordance with DoD Directive 4650.1 (reference (b)) and develop policy and procedures for guidance thereof.

b. Assemble military frequency requirements.

c\* Develop common procedures for interservice coordination and allocation of frequencies.

d. Allocate and coordinate the use of emission frequencies.

e. Prepare and promulgate assignments and changes in assignments in call signs, address groups, and routing indicators.

f. Prepare, coordinate changes to, and promulgate Allied Communications Publications (ACP) and Joint Army Navy Air Force Publications (JANAP). Determine format, assignment of printing responsibilities, and distribution of communications-electronics publications, except those communications security publications that are the responsibility of other DoD elements.

g. Develop, review, and implement procedures for participation in the DoD Electromagnetic Compatibility Program, as required.

h. Develop, review, and coordinate joint and allied communications-electronics operating methods and procedures.

i. In support of OSD and JCS procedures for the approval of U.S. positions, coordinate and participate in the development of (and changes to) joint and allied principals, technical standards, and procedures for obtaining compatibility and standardization of communications-electronics systems and equipment, including communications-electronics Standard NATO Agreements (STANAGs). Manage the ratification of all communications-electronics STANAGS and serve as office of record for all ratified agreements.

j. Develop joint technical operational characteristics for communications-electronics systems and equipment in the areas of electronic warfare, navigational aids, recognition and identification, security, and cryptography.

k. Develop and process the DoD position for negotiation with representatives of other nations on communications-electronic matters for which the MCEB is responsible. Refer such positions to the C<sup>3</sup> Review Council when higher level review is appropriate.

#### F. ADMINISTRATION

1. The permanent MCEB Secretariat shall consist of military and civilian personnel with necessary funding support provided by the Director for C<sup>3</sup>S, OJCS.

2. The Heads of DoD Components shall provide qualified personnel (normally on an additional duty basis) when requested by the Chairperson, MCEB, to serve on subsidiary MCEB panels.

#### G. RELATIONSHIPS

1. The Chairperson, MCEB, shall make reports and furnish recommendations concerning the MCEB to the Secretary of Defense through the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Specific reporting requirements, as they are developed and prescribed, shall be processed and approved consistent with the policies and criteria of DoD Directive 5000.19 (reference (c)).

2. The Chairperson, MCEB, as appropriate, shall provide information regarding MCEB determinations to and coordinate activities with, the C<sup>3</sup> Review Council.

H. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William H. Taft, IV". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "W" and "T".

William H. Taft, IV  
Deputy Secretary of Defense